IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended) A silicone rubber sponge emulsion composition, which comprises (A) a liquid silicone rubber base comprising ~~(a-1) a liquid diorganopolysiloxane having at least two alkenyl groups per molecule and a viscosity at 25 °C not less than 100 mPa·s and not more than 100,000 mPa·s or~~ (a-1) a liquid diorganopolysiloxane having at least two alkenyl groups per molecule and a viscosity at 25 °C not less than 100 mPa·s and not more than 100,000 mPa·s and (a-4) a reinforcing filler, (a-2) an organopolysiloxane having at least two silicon-bonded hydrogen atoms per molecule, and (a-3) a platinum catalyst, (B^1) an aqueous solution of (b-1) a water-soluble polymer, and (C) an emulsifying agent, and in which (a-1) to (a-3) or (a-1) to (a-4) in component (A) form an addition-curable type liquid silicone rubber composition, component (B^1) is contained in a proportion ranging from 50 to 250 parts by weight and component (C) is contained in a proportion ranging from 0.1 to 10 parts by weight per 100 parts by weight of ~~the total of (a-1) to (a-3) or~~ the total of (a-1) to (a-4) in component (A).

2. (Currently Amended) A method for producing the silicone rubber sponge emulsion composition according to claim 1, wherein an addition-curable type liquid silicone rubber composition is prepared by mixing (A) a liquid silicone rubber base made up of ~~(a-1) a liquid diorganopolysiloxane having at least two alkenyl groups per molecule and a viscosity at 25 °C not less than 100 mPa·s and not more than 100,000 mPa·s, or~~ (a-1) a liquid diorganopolysiloxane having at least two alkenyl groups per molecule and a viscosity at 25 °C not less than 100 mPa·s and not more than 100,000 mPa·s and (a-4) a reinforcing filler, (a-2) an organopolysiloxane having at least two silicon-bonded hydrogen atoms per molecule, and (a-3) a platinum catalyst and an emulsion is made by mixing the addition-curable type liquid silicone rubber composition with (B^1) an aqueous solution of (b-1) a water-soluble polymer, and (C) an emulsifying agent.

3. (Currently Amended) A method for producing the silicone rubber sponge emulsion composition according to claim 1, wherein an emulsion is produced by mixing (A) a liquid silicone rubber base comprising ~~(a-1) a liquid diorganopolysiloxane having at least two alkenyl groups per molecule and a viscosity at 25 °C not less than 100 mPa·s and not more than 100,000 mPa·s or~~ (a-1) a liquid diorganopolysiloxane having at least two alkenyl groups per molecule and a viscosity at 25 °C not less than 100 mPa·s and not more than 100,000 mPa·s and (a-4) a reinforcing filler, (B^1) an aqueous solution of (b-1) a water-soluble polymer, and (C) an emulsifying agent, and the emulsion is mixed with (a-2) an organopolysiloxane having at least two silicon-bonded hydrogen atoms per molecule and (a-3) a platinum catalyst.

4. (Currently Amended) A silicone rubber sponge emulsion composition, which comprises (A) a liquid silicone rubber base comprising ~~(a-1) a liquid diorganopolysiloxane having at least two alkenyl groups per molecule and a viscosity at 25 °C not less than 100 mPa·s and not more than 100,000 mPa·s or~~ (a-1) a liquid diorganopolysiloxane having at least two alkenyl groups per molecule and a viscosity at 25 °C not less than 100 mPa·s and not more than 100,000 mPa·s and (a-4) a reinforcing filler, (a-2) an organopolysiloxane having at least two silicon-bonded hydrogen atoms per molecule, (a-3) a platinum catalyst, (B^2) an aqueous solution of (b-1) a water-soluble polymer and (C) an emulsifying agent, and in which (a-1) to (a-3) or (a-1) to (a-4) in component (A) form an addition-curable type liquid silicone rubber composition, component (b-1) and water are contained in a proportion ranging from 10 to 250 parts by weight and component (C) is contained in a proportion ranging from 0.1 to 10 parts by weight per 100 parts by weight of ~~the total of (a-1) to (a-3) or~~ the total of (a-1) to (a-4) in component (A).

5. (Previously Presented) The silicone rubber sponge emulsion composition according to claim 1, wherein component (b-1) is sodium salt of an acrylic acid polymer and component (C) is a nonionic surface active agent.

6. (Original) The silicone rubber sponge emulsion composition according to claim 5, wherein the sodium salt of an acrylic acid polymer is sodium salt of polyacrylic acid.

7. (Previously Presented) The silicone rubber sponge emulsion composition according to claim 1, wherein component (b-1) is contained in component (B^1) in an amount of 0.1 to 5 % by weight.

8. (Previously Presented) The method for producing a silicone rubber sponge emulsion composition according to claim 2, wherein component (b-1) is sodium salt of an acrylic acid polymer and component (C) is a nonionic surface active agent.

9. (Original) The method for producing a silicone rubber sponge emulsion composition according to claim 8, wherein the sodium salt of an acrylic acid polymer is the sodium salt of polyacrylic acid.

10. (Previously Presented) The method for producing a silicone rubber sponge emulsion composition according to claim 2, wherein component (b-1) is contained in component (B^1) in an amount of 0.1 to 5 % by weight.

11. (Previously Presented) A method for producing a silicone rubber sponge, wherein the silicone rubber sponge is obtained by forming a moist silicone rubber-like molding by curing the silicone rubber sponge emulsion composition according to claim 1 and then evaporating water from the molding by heating.

12. (Original) The method for producing a silicone rubber sponge according to claim 11, wherein the silicone rubber sponge emulsion composition is cured at a temperature between room temperature and less than 120°C and the cured product is heated at 120°C to 250°C.

13. (Previously Presented) The method for producing a silicone rubber sponge according to claim 11, wherein the silicone rubber sponge emulsion composition does not contain air bubbles.

14. (Previously Presented) The silicone rubber sponge emulsion composition according to claim 4, wherein component (b-1) is sodium salt of an acrylic acid polymer and component (C) is a nonionic surface active agent.

15. (Previously Presented) The silicone rubber sponge emulsion composition according to claim 14, wherein the sodium salt of an acrylic acid polymer is sodium salt of polyacrylic acid.

16. (Previously Presented) The silicone rubber sponge emulsion composition according to claim 4, wherein component (b-1) is contained in component (B^2) in an amount of 0.1 to 5 % by weight.

17. (Previously Presented) The method for producing a silicone rubber sponge emulsion composition according to claim 3, wherein component (b-1) is sodium salt of an acrylic acid polymer and component (C) is a nonionic surface active agent.

18. (Previously Presented) The method for producing a silicone rubber sponge emulsion composition according to claim 17, wherein the sodium salt of an acrylic acid polymer is the sodium salt of polyacrylic acid.

19. (Currently Amended) The method for producing a silicone rubber sponge emulsion composition according to claim 3, wherein component (b-1) is contained in component (B^1) ~~or component (B^2)~~ in an amount of 0.1 to 5 % by weight.

20. (Previously Presented) A method for producing a silicone rubber sponge, wherein the silicone rubber sponge is obtained by forming a moist silicone rubber-like molding by curing the silicone rubber sponge emulsion composition according to claim 4 and then evaporating water from the molding by heating.

Please add the following new claim:

21. (New) The method for producing a silicone rubber sponge according to claim 20, wherein the silicone rubber sponge emulsion composition is cured at a temperature between room temperature and 120 °C and the cured product is heated at a temperature of from 120 °C to 250 °C.